



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Committee of Consumer Services

Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of Consumer Services held at the Heber M Wells Building, Room #210, 160 East 300 South, Salt Lake City, Utah, on Thursday, November 13, 2008

Members of the Committee in Attendance:

Kelly Casaday	Betsy Wolf	Rosalind McGee
Andrew Riggle	Franz Amussen	

Staff in Attendance:

Michele Beck	Dan Gimble	Ronnie Drake
Eric Orton	Paul Proctor	

Members of the Public in Attendance:

Dave Taylor, Rocky Mountain Power
Barrie McKay, Questar Gas
Judd Cook, Questar Gas
Jasen Lee, Deseret News

A powerpoint presentation accompanied this meeting and is hereby incorporated into the minutes by reference.

1. Welcome and Business

Kelly Casaday, having been re-appointed to another term on the Committee and newly appointed as chair, opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. He noted the attendance of the new Committee member, Rosalind McGee, who has been appointed to fill the statutory requirement of having a "retired person" serve on the Committee. He excused Robert McMullin.

2. Minutes

No minutes were available for consideration.

3. Public Comment

No members of the public offered comment.

4. Case Updates

Michele Beck provided an update on an array of Rocky Mountain Power issues, including the recent activities in both the 2007 and 2008 rate case. Of particular note is that the Commission ordered that in the 2008 rate case the Test Year should be calendar year 2009, but that refilling the information does not need to re-start the 240-day clock. The updated filing with the new Test Year is due December 8th.

Michele Beck also updated on a number of other pending issues. The Commission has not yet ordered on the Questar rate design issues. The settlement in the transponder case has been filed and heard in a hearing, but the Order is pending. There are several small telecom rate cases underway. Data updates are beginning to be released by PacifiCorp for their next IRP. Discussions are starting regarding legislation in the next session.

5. Budget and Planning Issues

Michele Beck gave an overview of the Committee's budget and upcoming workload. (The details are contained within the attached power point.)

6. Natural Gas Vehicles

Michele Beck gave an overview of how natural gas vehicles are treated within the Questar rate structure and the viewpoints advanced by participating parties of moving the rate toward cost of service. She also gave an overview of concerns the office has heard from NGV advocates and the unique situation of Utah relative to the issue. Finally, she made a case for why the NGV rate subsidy must be removed and discussed what the next steps will be on this issue within the regulatory process.

7. Green Stickers

Eric Orton led a discussion on the green sticker issue. He began by giving background on issues such as local gas production, gas quality, and safety issues. He also reviewed the evolution of the green sticker plan over time and the recent review of the success of the program. He then gave an overview of current green sticker issues and staff's concerns regarding the lack of a consistent message to consumers and the lack of consumer protection from contractors/technicians that may mis-use the program to increase their own profits. The presentation included much discussion from Committee members and Questar representatives in the audience and concluded with the recommendation (supported by the Committee) that staff continue to monitor these issues to ensure that our consumer goals are met by the program.

8. Other Business/Adjourn

Kelly Casaday indicated that he would like the Committee to select a vice chair at the next meeting and would like to begin courtesy visits to members of the legislature. The next meeting will be held December 11th.

Franz Amussen made a motion to adjourn and Betsy Wolf seconded; the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.